

HONORING THE MILITARY SERVICE OF STAFF SERGEANT WAYNE CARRINGER

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Staff Sergeant Wayne Carringer of Robbinsville, North Carolina, a courageous and highly decorated World War II veteran who was held for almost three and a half years as a prisoner of war.

Staff Sgt. Carringer enlisted in the Army in September of 1939. He survived what has become known as the Bataan Death March, the march from Mariveles to San Fernando where the soldiers, already malnourished and weak, were brutally tortured or killed by the Japanese.

At the end of the march, the soldiers were transported to Camp O'Dell, which Staff Sgt. Carringer has described as a death factory. He was placed into the Zero Ward, the building where the Japanese put the soldiers that were expected to die. Eventually, he was moved to work in the Japanese coal mines, where he endured starvation, malnutrition, torture, beatings, solitary confinement, malaria and slave labor. His weight plummeted to what he estimated was 80 to 85 pounds. After living as a prisoner of war for almost three and a half years, he emerged from captivity after the end of the war to find that the government had declared him dead in 1943. Staff Sgt. Carringer attributes his survival of the horrendous experience to his faith in God, and said that the experience increased his appreciation for his country and in his fellow man.

Every day we enjoy freedoms made possible by this heroic man and the thousands of other members of our military who have risked or given their lives to protect us, to ensure that the United States remains the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the bravery and sacrifice of Staff Sgt. Wayne Carringer, and to thank him for defending and preserving the freedoms that each of us enjoys today.

RETURN THE HERZOG COLLECTION TO ITS RIGHTFUL HEIR

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my continued deep frustration and concern about the injustice suffered by one of my constituents, Martha Nierenberg, an American citizen and Holocaust survivor whose family's artwork was stolen by the Nazis and now is in the hands of the Hungarian government. Mrs. Nierenberg has fought tirelessly to regain her family's legacy, yet the Hungarian government has failed to take morally appropriate steps to set historic wrongs right by returning Mrs. Nierenberg's artwork.

Mrs. Nierenberg grew up in Budapest, surrounded by the paintings collected by her grandfather, Mor Lipot Herzog, an avid art collector who amassed one of the largest private

collections of art in Hungary. When Hitler's troops invaded and occupied Hungary in March 1944, the Hungarian police and the Nazi SS stole the Herzog family art collection as part of the Nazi genocidal efforts to strip Jews of their lives and property. A young Mrs. Nierenberg escaped Hungary and eventually became an American citizen.

After WWII, Hungary, under control of a totalitarian government, came into possession of paintings that had been part of the Herzog Collection. Some of these paintings were even displayed in state-owned museums in Budapest and were described as belonging to the Herzog Collection. Despite agreeing to the 1998 Washington Conference on Holocaust Era-Assets, the government of Hungary has still not returned all of the Nierenberg family's art.

Under the Washington Principles, which the government endorsed, Hungary is required to try to come to a just and fair resolution of claims to Holocaust looted property. Today, I call on President Solymosy and Prime Minister Ferenc Gyurcsany to take a moral stand, rectify past wrongs, and return the Herzog collection to its rightful heir, Martha Nierenberg. This injustice has gone on for far too long and must be put right immediately.

KEN TREVETT: CHAMPION FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH IN THE SOUTH BAY

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, the 36th District is known for more than its pristine beaches and year-round sunshine. We have our fair share of beakers and graduated cylinders, too. It is home to groundbreaking scientific discoveries, many of which come out of the Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute in Torrance, formerly known as Harbor-UCLA Research & Education Institute. For the past 55 years, this institution has served as the beating heart of the biomedical research community—the modern cholesterol test and the paramedic model for emergency care are familiar inventions that LA BioMed created.

So, the news that Ken Trevett is leaving LA BioMed after 7 distinguished years as its CEO has left all of us with a sense of genuine loss.

LA BioMed owes its standing in the industry in large part to Ken's ability to commercialize its medical successes. His keen business sense helped efficiently convert new medical discoveries into the technologies that have helped thousands of patients. Ken's efforts propelled LA BioMed's profile in the industry, attracting the best researchers and doctors in the country to its laboratories. And its endowment has nearly quadrupled during his tenure.

Ken's success in science and business is matched by his extraordinary community service. He served as a member of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce, South Bay Economic Development Partnership, and the LA Economic Development Corporation, not to mention numerous board memberships at organizations like the American Heart Association. And Ken has taken time to share his expertise and wisdom in classrooms across the South Bay with the next generation of scientists, doctors, and businessmen.

As a member of my "Medicine Cabinet," Ken's voice, though I often rib him about his Boston accent, has played a substantial role in helping shape my decisions on health care policy. His absence will be strongly felt.

I join those whose lives Ken has touched in wishing him and his family continued success at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio, TX.

HONORING DENNIS J. MAUFORT ON HIS RETIREMENT AS AREA DIRECTOR OF THE USDA IN THE UPPER PENINSULA

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Dennis Maufort on his retirement from the United States Department of Agriculture. Mr. Maufort will be retiring as Area Director for USDA in the Upper Peninsula after more than 37 years. I ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in honoring and thanking Dennis Maufort for his 37 years of service to our community, State, and country.

Born and raised in Menominee, MI, Dennis Maufort is a native of Michigan's Upper Peninsula and has been proud to serve his fellow community members these many years. Dennis Maufort and his wife, Karen, have been married for 34 years. Together they have two wonderful children. Dennis was active in coaching minor league baseball for 4 years and senior league baseball for 5 years in Gladstone while his children were young. He also served as his daughter's fifth and sixth grade basketball coach.

Dennis Maufort graduated from Western Michigan University in 1971 with a degree in agriculture and a minor in general business. He went to work for what was then called the USDA Farmers Home Administration in June 1971 as an Assistant County Supervisor in the Marquette County Office. He served the residents of Marquette, Dickinson, and Alger Counties, providing single-family home loans and working with area farmers to provide loan and grant assistance. Dennis moved to Escanaba in 1977 as Farmers Home Administration County Supervisor. When the District Office was created in 1978 in Escanaba, he became the District Director, supervising six county offices located in Escanaba, Marquette, Ewen, Sault Ste. Marie, Petoskey, and Alpena, MI.

During the farm crisis in the 1980s, Mr. Maufort became involved in the Upper Peninsula Market Livestock recordkeeping project at the Upper Peninsula State Fair. Each person involved in 4-H who is raising an animal for sale at the fair must submit a record book for his or her livestock project documenting how the animal was raised and recording feed and maintenance cost for the animal. Dennis spearheaded the committee of employees who volunteered their time to review and analyzed the record books, interviewed the students, and awarded the ribbons. The committee consists of employees from USDA Rural Development, Farm Service Agency, and Farm Credit Services. Mr. Maufort has also served on the Dairy Science Advisory Council and as an advisor for the Rotational Grazing Project with Michigan State University.

USDA Farmers Home Administration is now USDA Rural Development, and Mr. Maufort works out of the agency's office in Gladstone, MI. He has been instrumental in developing a working relationship between the Native American Tribes in the Upper Peninsula and USDA Rural Development. The Gladstone Office processed the first Tribal Loan in the State of Michigan because of Mr. Maufort's personal dedication to the application.

Dennis Maufort has been a tremendous asset to the Upper Peninsula and all of Michigan over the course of his 37 years with USDA. He processed the first USDA loan for a Michigan hospital in the 1970s at Munising Memorial Hospital, and he also was instrumental in coordinating the first Hydroelectric Power Loan in Norway, MI, in the early 1980s. More recently Mr. Maufort worked with the County Board for Keweenaw County in providing assistance for the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge in Cooper Harbor, MI. Mr. Maufort also worked with the city of Houghton to obtain a loan for the Houghton Public Library which overlooks the estuary in Houghton and provides services for the entire county. These are just a few of Dennis Maufort's many accomplishments since he started working at USDA.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Maufort has been a vital asset to USDA Rural Development during his career. His contact with the communities he has served has increased the quality of life for countless citizens in Michigan. I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating Dennis Maufort on a job well done and in wishing him well in his retirement.

DUNCAN HUNTER NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Defense Authorization bill. Despite the 2006 mandate from the American people to end the war and occupation of Iraq, this bill authorizes the funding to continue operations in Iraq well into the 2009 fiscal year. This bill authorizes \$68.5 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition it authorizes the entirety of the administration's request of \$542.5 billion for the National Defense budget. This is a grand total of \$611.1 billion to continue misguided policies such as preemptive strikes, interventionism and peace through strength.

The bill includes absolutely no language calling for the withdrawal of our honorable and brave service members in Iraq, 4,170 servicemen and women have been killed in Iraq, there have been tens of thousands of injuries to our troops and over 1 million innocent Iraqi civilians have been killed as a result of the war. The true monetary cost of the war is estimated to be \$3 trillion. Yet instead of keeping a commitment that we made back in 2006 to end the war, we are once again voting on a bill that will continue to fund it well into the term of the next President. Congress has the ability to end the war and bring our troops home simply by refusing to continue funding.

Additionally, I do not support the authorization for \$465.8 million to continue development of the European Ground-Based Mid-Course Defense, GMD, program despite a lack of assurance that the system will work or is needed for the safety of our nation. Congress' continued funding of the European GMD only lends credence to the administration's misguided claims the system is necessary to defend the U.S. from a long-range ballistic missile attack from Iran despite the fact that Iran is unlikely to pose such a threat to the United States in the foreseeable future.

Continuing to develop the European GMD has consequences for U.S. foreign policy. This deal has exacerbated tensions between the U.S. and Russia. There has also been strong opposition by the citizens of the Czech Republic and Poland to the placement of the radar and interceptors in their respective countries.

This bill continues to reflect the wrong priorities for our nation's security. The continued proliferation of nuclear weapons does not make America safer. What will make America safer is to place a priority on cooperation with the global community on nuclear nonproliferation initiatives. This bill authorizes over \$6.6 billion for the nuclear weapons activities of the National Nuclear Security Administration, and less than \$2 billion for nuclear nonproliferation.

The U.S. administration has established a record of unilateralism that undercuts our nation's credibility in the eyes of other nations. The repercussions of this record include undermining our security and diplomatic integrity. In just under eight years the U.S. administration has backtracked on international treaties and conventions. The U.S. has rejected the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, refused to sign the Land Mine Treaty, withdrawn from the Anti Ballistic Missile Treaty, unsigned the Kyoto Protocol, and blocked a verification protocol for the Biological Weapons Convention.

Continuing to keep "all options on the table" while refusing to engage in diplomacy without preconditions leaves America devoid of any moral authority. The idea that peace (the absence of 'violence') can be brought about through violence and increasing weapons stockpiles is antithetical. The assertion that keeping our nation safe requires us to maintain a pre-emptive strike policy is built on a foundation of fear and continues to drive Americans further away from each other and the world community. The belief that the bulk of our foreign policy should be comprised of insisting other countries do what we tell them, while we fail to engage in any meaningful global cooperation is hypocritical and condescending.

The security of America lies not in defense spending but in ensuring well paid jobs for hardworking Americans, guaranteed health care and a strong education for our nation's youth. We must shift our priorities. This body must stop spending half of America's tax dollars on the funding of the military industrial complex and instead invest in economic projects that really will keep America safer. With our economy in crisis it should be clear that continuing to hemorrhage money on defense spending while our future economic stability is uncertain is not in the best interests of our citizens. Congress must wake up. In other words, I believe that Congress must reassess our current priorities and in so doing begin to provide for the traditional sense of security by first ensuring economic security, health security, and job security for all.

WEBCASTER SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Webcaster Settlement Act of 2008, and want to thank the gentleman from Washington for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor.

H.R. 7084 is a simple yet critical legislative solution that allows private sector actors to keep a negotiating process alive. Why? Because Internet radio royalties operate under a government license, and Congressional approval is necessary to allow a private sector agreement to effectuate outside the government process.

This is a good thing. After all, if I have a choice between a government mandated solution and a private sector agreement, I will take the private sector agreement almost every time.

The Webcaster Settlement Act of 2008 guarantees that our nation's performing artists, musicians, record labels and webcasters can continue copyright negotiations that are making slow but steady progress. And a resolution to the issue is critical, so Internet radio listeners can keep on listening and the people performing those songs can be properly compensated.

The Copyright Royalty Board is small government body tasked with determining royalty rates for the use of music over Internet radio. It is obscure to some, but its decisions are critical to my constituents in Tennessee and Internet radio users across the country. Unfortunately, this body was tasked with the authority to adjudicate a rate structure at the direction of Congress back in 2004. This proved to be unwise, since the Board's decision announced in March of 2007 sparked a lengthy lobbying battle and an acrimonious relationship between two important members of the music industry's family; the copyright holder and the copyright deliverer.

We now understand that the parties are gradually coming together, and growing closer to finding common ground. Congress should do everything in its power to ensure the negotiations continue, and H.R. 7084 is the vehicle to guarantee the talks will continue.

I urge my colleagues to support it, and yield the balance of my time.

IN HONOR OF TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, September 28, 2008

Mr. RAMSTAD. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a proud member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus to congratulate Taiwan on its 97th National Day on October 10th.

The people of Taiwan have many reasons to celebrate and be proud of their country. Having elected President Ma Ying-jeou, the Taiwanese have returned the KMT party back to power, thereby effectively passing Huntington's "two-turnover test of democratic consolidation." By successfully transitioning from one